



**from** the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Stowe elected to lead EOC as new chairman

*EDITOR'S NOTE: The EOC held a full meeting February 13, 2006, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 433, Blatt Building. The election of chairman occurred at this meeting.*



**Columbia** – Harold Stowe, a businessman from Pawley's Island, has been elected as the new Chairman of the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee (EOC), a term which will begin immediately.

Stowe replaces Columbia businessman Bob Staton, who has served as chairman of the 18-member group since January 2002, and whose term as chairman concluded with the election of Stowe.

Stowe was appointed to the EOC in 2001, to serve as the business representative of the Speaker of the House.

Until March 2005, Stowe worked for Canal Holdings, LLC, serving as President from 1997 to 2005. He began his professional career in 1970 as Vice President of the North Carolina National Bank, a predecessor of Bank of America, in Charlotte, NC. He later worked as Treasurer of Springs Industries in Fort Mill and as Executive Vice President of The Springs Company in Lancaster.

Stowe serves as a board member of numerous business organizations and is a member of numerous local and state organizations including the Waccamaw Community Foundation, the Knight Foundation Advisory Board, and the boards of Smith Medical Clinic and Bakersville Outreach. He is a past board member of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce, the Palmetto Business Forum, the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education Business Advisory Council, and the Palmetto AgriBusiness Council.

Stowe is a member of Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church in Pawley's Island, where he is the Treasurer and a Vestry member.

Stowe received his bachelor's degree in commerce from Washington & Lee University in 1968 and a master's degree in business administration from Harvard Business School in 1970.

"I am excited to step into such an important role at such a critical time for our education system," Stowe stated. "I hope I can live up to standards set up past leadership."

Stowe and his wife Claudia have three children: Crosby, Blair, and Patrick.

*Established by the EAA, the EOC is an independent, non-partisan, 18-member legislative committee made up of educators, business persons, and elected officials who serve by virtue of their elected position or by appointment of the legislature or governor. It bears responsibilities for the development and improvement of SC's educational accountability system and for making recommendations to ensure the continuous improvement of schools.*